GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3854
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
IRRIGATION PROJECTS UNDER AIBP IN MAHARASHTRA
Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are reconsidering its decision for providing grants of Rs. 707 crores to Government of Maharashtra for irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any correspondence from any State for modification in Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Project; and

(d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The Central assistance under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) provided to the States is in the form of Central Loan Assistance (CLA)/Grant on year to year basis keeping in view the budget provisions made by the State Governments in the State budget and the CLA ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission during a particular year. During 2004-05, the Planning Commission had fixed the CLA ceiling at Rs. 707 crore for Maharashtra and CLA/Grant of Rs.529.286 crore was released. For the year 2005-06, Planning Commission has enhanced the ceiling to Rs. 800 crore.

(c) & (d) The Governments of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have requested that the Union Government may provide both the grant and loan portion instead of the loan portion raised by the States themselves. The revised guidelines of AIBP effective from 1.4.2005 stipulate that the loan component of the assistance is to be raised by the States themselves from market borrowings and only the grant component will be released by the Centre.